IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 12, 16, 21-22, 25-26, 29-32, 43, and 46-47 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A system for conducting a transaction with privacy on a wide area network, said system including a plurality of personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, a privacy provider for communication with the PADs, a privacy network, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy provider, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement comprising:

~~a plurality of personal access devices (PADs), each PAD contained in a manually portable housing and associated with a~~ each PAD including memory for storing unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to a subscriber to said system, each manually portable PAD storing a subscriber profile including information related to the subscriber ~~for generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly~~;

~~a privacy service provider (PSP) connected to the wide area network~~ wherein the privacy provider is a privacy service provider (PSP) which stores at least a portion of the subscriber profile of each manually portable PAD, ~~each manually portable PAD being associated with the PSP,~~ each manually portable PAD being ~~directly~~ accessible by said PSP based on first predetermined subscriber information that sets a first condition for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the PAD or ~~for~~ manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into the PAD as established by the subscriber in said subscriber's profile for controlling the processing of requests for authorization of the transaction, and said PSP being responsive in real-time to the interactive and wirelessly transmitted commands from said manually portable PAD;

~~a registered vendor (RV) connected to the wide area network~~ wherein each vendor is registered with the privacy network as a registered vendor (RV) in order to conduct the transaction involving a subscriber; and

~~a privacy shield network (PSN) connected to the wide area network, said RV being registered with said PSN and said PSN~~ wherein the privacy network is a privacy shield network (PSN) structured to carry communications relating to the transaction between said PSP and ~~said~~ a specific RV based on second predetermined subscriber information that sets a second condition as specifically established by the subscriber in said subscriber's profile for controlling the completion of the transaction;

whereby the specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said PAD stores private data associated with the subscriber, and wherein said PSP releases any of said private data to said RV only under said first and second conditions.

3. (currently amended) The system of claim 2, wherein said PSP ~~also stores~~ includes memory for storing said profile and said private data.

4. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said PSP controls access by said RV to said PAD under said first and second conditions.

5. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said PSP includes a network server.

6. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said RV includes a network server.

7. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said PSN includes a network server.

8. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said PSP controls access by said RV to said profile under said second conditions.

9. (original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a second registered vendor (RV) connected to the wide area network, said PSP being accessible by said second RV under third conditions set by said profile, said second RV being accessible by the first mentioned RV under fourth conditions set by said second RV and said first RV being accessible by said second RV under fifth conditions set by said first RV.

10. (original) The system of claim 9, wherein said second conditions include authorization conditions for authorizing the transaction among said PAD, said first RV and said second RV.

11. (original) The system of claim 10, wherein said authorization conditions include a first authorization for authorizing said second RV to complete an intermediate transaction with said first RV.

12. (Currently amended) The system of claim 11, wherein said first authorization is sent from said PSP to said second RV over said PSN, said PSN preventing said first RV from access to said first authorization.

13. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said second conditions include authorization conditions for authorizing the transaction between said PAD and said RV.

14. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein said authorization conditions control whether said first RV is authorized to request a response from said PAD.

15. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the wide area network is the Internet.

16. (currently amended) A personal access device (PAD) associated with a subscriber for conducting a transaction with privacy on a wide area network, said PAD operating in a system including a plurality of such personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, a privacy provider for communication with the PADs, a privacy network, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy provider, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement in the PAD comprising:

~~a manually portable housing;~~

a memory for storing unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to the subscriber, and a profile of the subscriber;

a manually actuable command generator for generating the interactive commands;

a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting the interactive commands ~~directly~~ to a privacy service provider (PSP) from the PAD, the PSP being the privacy provider and responsive in real-time to the wirelessly transmitted interactive commands, and with the PSP being connected to the wide area network, wherein the PSP stores at least a portion of the subscriber profile of each manually portable PAD; and

a receiver for receiving authorized requests from the PSP, the PSP communicating ~~directly~~ with said PAD based on first predetermined subscriber information that sets a first condition for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the PAD or ~~for~~ manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into the PAD as established by the subscriber in said subscriber's profile for controlling requests for authorization of the transaction, each authorized request having been received by said PSP over a privacy shield network (PSN) as the privacy network connected to the wide area network from another PSP or from a vendor, wherein each vendor is registered with the PSN as a registered vendor (RV) ~~or another privacy service provider, the RV being registered on the PSN and~~ with a specific RV communicating with the PSP based on second predetermined subscriber information that sets a second condition as specifically established by the subscriber in said subscriber's profile for controlling the completion of the transaction;

whereby the specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

17. (original) The PAD of claim 16, wherein the PSP receives first requests over the PSN and determines which ones of the first requests are authorized requests under said first conditions set by said profile.

18. (original) The PAD of claim 17, wherein if the PSP determines that one of the first requests is not an authorized request, the PSP selectively responds to this first request over the PSN under second conditions set by said profile.

19. (original) The PAD of claim 16, wherein said PAD is in the form of a selected one of a key chain fob, a pen, a cellular phone, a personal digital assistant, a computer and a card.

20. (original) The PAD of claim 16, wherein said PAD stores private data associated with the subscriber, and wherein the PSP releases any of said private data to the RV only under said first and second conditions.

21. (currently amended) The PAD of claim 20, wherein the PSP ~~also stores~~ includes memory for storing said profile and said private data.

22. (previously presented) ~~A privacy service provider (PSP) for facilitating communications between a privacy shield network (PSN) and a personal access device (PAD) associated with a subscriber to the PSN, where the PAD stores a profile of the subscriber and where said PSP and the PSN are connected to a wide area network, said PSP~~

A privacy provider operating in a system for conducting a transaction with privacy on a wide area network, said system including a plurality of personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, with the privacy provider in communication with the PADs, a privacy network, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy provider, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement in the privacy provider comprising:

a Privacy Service Provider (PSP) being the privacy provider and including:

a receiver for receiving the interactive commands transmitted wirelessly from the PAD ~~, wherein the PAD is contained in manually portable housing~~;

a server, responsive in real-time to the wirelessly transmitted interactive commands from the manually portable PAD, with the PAD including memory for storing unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to a subscriber to said system, and with the manually portable PAD storing a subscriber profile including information related to the subscriber, with the server of the PSP including memory which stores at least a portion of the subscriber profile of each manually portable PAD, for communicating with ~~a registered vendor (RV) over the PSN~~ the vendors, wherein each vendor is registered with the PSP as a registered vendor (RV) in order to conduct the transaction involving a subscriber over the privacy network operating as a PSN based on first predetermined subscriber information that sets a first condition

for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the PAD or ~~for~~ manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into the PAD as established by the subscriber in said subscriber profile for controlling the completion of communications and in accordance with wirelessly transmitted interactive commands received from the PAD, said server also for receiving first requests from ~~the~~ a specific RV and for determining which ones of the first requests are authorized requests based on second predetermined subscriber information that sets a second condition as specifically established by the subscriber in said subscriber profile for controlling the communications; and

a transmitter for transmitting in real-time the authorized requests to the PAD;

whereby the specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

23. (original) The PSP of claim 22, wherein said server communicates with a plurality of RVs over the PSN in the same way as with the first-mentioned RV.

24. (original) The PSP of claim 22, wherein the PAD stores private data associated with the subscriber, and wherein said PSP releases any of said private data to the RV only under said first and second conditions.

25. (currently amended) The PSP of claim 24, wherein the memory of the server of said PSP also stores ~~said profile and~~ said private data.

26. (previously presented) ~~A privacy shield network (PSN) connected to a wide area network, said PSN controlling communications among a plurality of privacy service providers (PSPs) and a plurality of registered vendors (RVs), where each PSP is directly controlled by interactive commands transmitted wirelessly in real-time from a personal access device (PAD) contained in a manually portable housing and associated with an individual subscriber to said PSN and is further controlled under conditions set by a profile associated with each subscriber and stored in the subscriber's PAD, said PSN~~

A privacy network operating in a system for conducting a transaction with privacy on a wide area network, said system including a plurality of personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, with at least one privacy provider in communication with the PADs, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy providers, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement in the privacy network comprising:

a Privacy Shield Network (PSN) being the privacy network and including:

a first server structure for controlling registration of vendors as ~~RVs~~ registered vendors (RVs) in order to conduct the transaction involving a subscriber, with the PSN in communication with each of the privacy providers as Privacy Service Providers (PSP), where said PSN prevents transfer of communications from unregistered vendors to any of the PSPs and RVs; and

a second server structure for controlling communications using the wide area network from any of the PSPs and RVs to any of the PSPs and RVs participating in the transaction,

wherein said second server structure controls any communication in real-time between a first one of the PSPs and any other one of the PSPs and RVs based on first predetermined subscriber information that sets a first condition for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the PAD or ~~for~~ manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into the PAD for controlling the processing of communications as established by the subscriber in the subscriber's profile stored in memory of the PAD and controlled by the first PSP, with the real-time control of communications performed by the interactive commands transmitted wirelessly from the manually portable PAD ~~directly~~ accessible to each PSP;

wherein the memory of the PAD stores unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to the subscriber;

wherein the PSP stores at least a portion of the subscriber profile of each PAD;

whereby a specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

27. (original) The PSN of claim 26, wherein said second server structure controls routing of communications from any of the PSPs and RVs to any of the PSPs and RVs over the wide area network.

28. (original) The PSN of claim 26, wherein each PAD stores private data associated with the respective subscriber, and wherein the associated PSP releases any of said private data to any of the PSPs and RVs only under said first and second conditions.

29. (currently amended) The PSN of claim 27, wherein at least one of the PSPs ~~also stores~~ includes memory for storing said profile and said private data of the respective subscriber.

30. (currently amended) A method of conducting a transaction with privacy using a ~~privacy shield network (PSN) connected to a wide area network,~~ system including a plurality of personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, a privacy provider for communication with the PADs, a privacy network, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy provider, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement in said method comprising the steps of:

storing a profile of a ~~PSN~~ subscriber in ~~a personal access device (PAD)~~ memory of the PAD contained in a manually portable housing that is associated with the subscriber, wherein the privacy network is a Privacy Service Network;

storing in the memory of the PAD unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to the subscriber;

generating interactive commands using the PAD;

wirelessly transmitting the interactive commands from the PAD;

~~directly~~ accessing the PAD in real-time based on first predetermined subscriber information that sets a first condition for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the respective PAD or ~~for~~ manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into the respective PAD as established by the subscriber in the subscriber profile for controlling the processing of requests for authorization of the transaction using a privacy service provider (PSP) as the privacy provider connected to the wide area network, the PSP being controlled by the wirelessly transmitted interactive commands from the PAD;

storing at least a portion of the subscriber profile of each PAD in a memory of the PSP;

providing a Privacy Shield Network (PSN) as the privacy network;

registering a vendor with the PSN as a registered vendor (RV) connected to the wide area network in order to conduct the transaction involving a subscriber; and

transmitting communications between the PSP and ~~the~~ a specific RV ~~related to the transaction~~ based on second predetermined subscriber information that sets a second

condition as specifically established by the subscriber in the subscriber profile for controlling the completion of the transaction using the PSN;

whereby the specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

31. (currently amended) A method of using a personal access device (PAD) associated with a subscriber for conducting a transaction with privacy on a wide area network in a system including a plurality of the personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, a privacy provider for communication with the PADs, a privacy network, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy provider, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement in said method comprising the steps of:

storing a profile of the subscriber in a memory contained in [[a]] the manually portable housing of the PAD;

storing in the memory of the PAD unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to the subscriber;

generating interactive commands in the PAD;

wirelessly transmitting the interactive commands to a privacy service provider (PSP) as the privacy provider that is ~~directly~~ accessible to the PAD and connected to the wide area network;

storing at least a portion of the subscriber profile of each PAD in the PSP; and

receiving authorized requests from the PSP, the PSP communicating in real-time with the PAD based on first predetermined subscriber information that sets a first condition for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the respective PAD or ~~for~~ manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into the respective PAD as established by the subscriber in the subscriber's profile for controlling the completion of the transaction, each authorized request having been received by the PSP under the control of a privacy shield network (PSN) as the privacy network connected to the wide area network, the ~~RV~~ vendors being registered with the PSN as registered vendors (RVs) in order to conduct the transaction involving a subscriber and communicating with the PSP based on second predetermined subscriber information that sets a second condition as specifically established by the subscriber in the subscriber's profile;

whereby a specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

32. (currently amended) A method of using a ~~privacy shield network (PSN) connected to a wide area network to control communications among a plurality of privacy service providers (PSPs) and a plurality of registered vendors (RVs), where each PSP is directly controlled by interactive commands transmitted wirelessly from a personal access device (PAD) contained in a manually portable housing and associated with an individual subscriber to the PSN and is further controlled a profile of the individual subscriber stored in the subscriber's PAD,~~

system including a plurality of personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, a privacy provider for communication with the PADs, a privacy network, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy provider, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement in said method comprising the steps of:

storing a profile of the subscriber in a memory of the PAD;

storing in the memory of the PAD unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to the subscriber;

storing at least a portion of the subscriber profile of each PAD in a privacy service provider (PSP) as the privacy provider accessible to the PAD and connected to the wide area network;

using a first service structure for controlling registration of the vendors as ~~RVs~~ registered vendors (RVs) in order to conduct the transaction involving a subscriber, where ~~the PSN~~ a Privacy Shield Network (PSN), as the privacy network, prevents transfer of communications of unregistered vendors to any of the PSPs and RVs; and

using a second server structure for controlling communications using the wide area network from any of the PSPs and RVs to any of the PSPs and RVs,

wherein the second server structure controls any communication in real-time between a first one of the PSPs and any other one of the PSPs and RVs under conditions set specifically by the subscriber's profile for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the respective PAD or manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into

the respective PAD, with the real-time control of communications performed by the interactive commands transmitted wirelessly from the manually portable PAD ~~directly~~ accessible to each PSP;

whereby a specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

Claims 33-42 (canceled).

43. (currently amended) A system for a plurality of individual subscribers to receive and transmit communications via the Internet, the system including a plurality of personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, a privacy provider for communication with the PADs, a privacy network, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy provider, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement comprising:

an XML privacy service provider (PSP) as the privacy provider linked to the Internet for communication;

a plurality of private XML subscriber data files accessible to said PSP, each file being associated with a respective subscriber;

a memory in the PAD for storing unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to the subscriber and for storing a subscriber profile, with the PAD being

a subscriber-programmable personal access device ~~(PAD) contained in a manually portable housing~~ that provides subscriber access to the respective subscriber's data file and profile and ~~directly~~ communicates in real-time with said PSP using interactive commands transmitted wirelessly from the PAD; and

a plurality of registered vendors (RVs) as the vendors, each vendor being registered with a Privacy Shield Network (PSN) as the privacy network in order to conduct the transaction involving the subscriber, with the RVs linked to the Internet for communication with the subscribers under conditions set by the respective subscriber's data files through said PSP for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the respective PAD or manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into the respective PAD;

whereby a specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

44. (previously presented) The system of claim 43, wherein said PSP comprises:

means for receiving communications from a subscriber;

means for transmitting a subscriber's file to that subscriber and for changing data in the subscriber's file in response to the subscriber's authorization; and

means for communicating with an RV in connection with a subscriber's file.

45. (previously presented) The system of claim 43, wherein each XML subscriber data file includes at least one of the following:

subscriber identifying data;

subscriber credit account data;

subscriber cash account data;

subscriber product preference identifiers; and

subscriber product exclusion identifiers.

46. (currently amended) The system of claim 43, wherein each PAD comprises:

a CPU, an operating system and a memory device for storing the profile;

a battery;

a wireless RF communication chip;

an input/output interface; and

an encryption key embedded in removable ROM.

47. (currently amended) A portable battery-powered personal access device (PAD) for use by a subscriber in a system for a plurality of individual subscribers that enables the subscriber to receive and transmit private personalized communications via the Internet, the system including a plurality of the personal access devices (PADs) each contained in a manually portable housing and capable of generating interactive commands transmitted wirelessly, a privacy provider for communication with the PADs, a privacy network, and a plurality of vendors, with each of the privacy provider, the privacy network, and the plurality of vendors

connected to a wide area network for communication with each other, the improvement comprising:

an XML privacy service provider (PSP) as the privacy provider linked to the Internet for communication,

a plurality of private XML subscriber data files accessible to the PSP, each file being associated with an individual subscriber, said PAD providing a subscriber access to that subscriber's file and a communications link with the PSP, and

a plurality of registered vendors (RVs) linked to the Internet for communication with the subscribers under conditions set by each of the respective subscriber's files through the PSP, ~~said PAD comprising:~~

~~a manually portable housing;~~

wherein said PAD includes:

at least one programmable integrated circuit (IC) device that includes encrypted identification means;

non-directional, short-range communication signal generation and receiving means for wirelessly transmitting interactive commands ~~directly~~ to the PSP in real-time;

a CPU, an operating system and a memory device for storing unique Privacy Subscriber Identification (PSID) data corresponding to the subscriber and for storing a subscriber profile utilized for proceeding with the transaction to perform either automatic authorization of the transaction without querying a subscriber with the respective PAD or manual authorization of the transaction by querying the subscriber to enter a command into the respective PAD; and

an input/output interface;

whereby a specific RV completes the transaction based on the communications with the PSN and without access to personal data of the subscriber, thereby preserving the privacy of the subscriber.

48. (previously presented) The PAD of claim 47, wherein said IC device is removable from said PAD.

49. (previously presented) The PAD of claim 47, wherein the encrypted identification means is a unique digital code embedded in ROM.

50. (previously presented) The PAD of claim 49, wherein said IC device is preprogrammed to disable the identification means in the event that security of the unique digital code is breached.

51. (previously presented) The PAD of claim 47, wherein an electronic display is visible through an aperture in said housing and the PAD includes at least one manual actuator for controlling functions of said PAD.

52. (previously presented) The PAD of claim 51, further comprising a microphone having an on/off switch and a voice recognition program that converts voice to digital data for storage in said memory device.